

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 5-24 are pending. All claims continue unamended. No new matter has been added. A complete listing of the pending claims is provided below and supersedes all previous claim lists.

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method employed in a distributed database system that includes a plurality of database systems for responding to a request received in a particular database system of the plurality, each database system of the plurality including a query engine and a database and the method comprising the steps performed in the particular database system's query engine of:

determining when the request is parsed whether an execution of the request is preferably done at least in part in another database system of the plurality; and

if that is the case, redirecting that part of the execution to the other database system.

6. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 5 wherein:

the request includes a specifier referring to an object that is not present in the particular database system; and

the step of determining whether the execution of the request is preferably done in the other database system determines that the object required for execution of the request is not present in the particular database system.

7. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 5 further comprising the steps

of:

placing the request in a form required for execution in the particular database system;

modifying the form when it has been determined that the request is preferably executed at least in part in the other database system; and

in the step of redirecting, the modified form is redirected.

8. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 7 wherein:

the request includes an SQL statement;

the form required for execution is a cursor; and

in the step of modifying the form, the cursor is marked for redirection.

9. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 7 wherein:

the request includes a call to a procedure object; and

in the step of modifying the form, the call is rewritten in the form required for execution as a remote procedure call directed to the other database system.

10. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs the method set forth in claim 5.

11. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs the method set forth in claim 6.

12. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs the method set forth in claim 7.

13. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs the method set forth in claim 8.

14. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs the method set forth in claim 9.

15. (Previously Presented) Apparatus that redirects at least a part of a request received in a particular database system belonging to a distributed database system to another database system in the distributed database system, each database system belonging to the distributed database system including a query engine and a database and
the apparatus comprising:
a request analyzer in the particular database system's query engine that determines that the request is preferably executed at least in part in the other database system; and
a redirector in the particular database system's query engine that redirects execution of at least the part of the request to the other database system.

- 16.** (Previously Presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 15 wherein:
the request analyzer places the request in a form required for execution in the particular database system and causes the form to be modified when the request is preferably executed at least in part in the other database system; and
the redirector redirects the modified form.
- 17.** (Previously Presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 16 wherein:
the request includes an SQL statement;
the request analyzer includes the SQL statement in a cursor that the request analyzer causes to be marked for redirection; and
the redirector redirects the marked cursor.
- 18.** (Previously Presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 16 wherein:
the request includes a call to a procedure object; and
the redirector causes the call to be rewritten in a form required for execution as a remote procedure call directed to the other database system.
- 19** (Previously Presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 15 wherein:
the request includes a specifier referring to an object that is not present in the particular database system and
the request analyzer determines that an object required for execution of the request is not present in the particular database system.
- 20.** (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an

apparatus as set forth in claim 15.

21. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an apparatus as set forth in claim 16.

22. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an apparatus as set forth in claim 17.

23. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an apparatus as set forth in claim 18.

24. (Previously Presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an apparatus as set forth in claim 19.